

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (original) An intervertebral cage for treating degeneration of the spine and suitable for being interposed between two consecutive vertebrae, the cage comprising:
 - a block (1);
 - at least one anchor member (2) comprising a pivot (3) defining a first axis of rotation (4), and at least one blade (5) secured to said pivot (3) and occupying substantially a first plane (6) making a non-zero angle α relative to said first axis (4); and
 - means for mounting the pivot (3) to turn relative to said block (1), said means comprising a hole (10) made in the block (1) along a second axis (11), a slot (12) made in the block substantially in a second plane (13) making an angle γ substantially equal to the angle α relative to the second axis (11), the slot (12) also being made in such a manner that, together with the hole (10), it has a common portion (14) suitable for containing the pivot (3), and means (15) for associating the pivot (3) to turn relative to the block (1) when the pivot is in position in said common portion (14) and in such a manner that when, in said position, the pivot is turned through a given amplitude relative to the block, the anchor member (2) is suitable for taking up at least a first position and a second position, the first position being that in which the blade (5) is fully contained within the slot (12), and the second position being that in which a portion (16) of the end of the blade emerges from said slot;

the cage being characterized by the fact that for the pivot (3) being constituted by a second rotary shaft (20) having the first axis (4) as its axis, the means (15) for associating the pivot in rotation with the block comprises a second bearing (21) that is open towards the opening (22) of said slot (12) situated in the surface of the block (1), said open second bearing being made in the margin of said common portion (14) in such a manner as to be centered on said second axis (11), the diameters of the open second bearing (21) and of the second rotary shaft (20) being substantially equal, the diameter of the second rotary shaft (20) and of the open second bearing (21) being greater than the minimum diametral dimension of the cross-section of the hole (10).

2. (original) An intervertebral cage according to claim 1, characterized by the fact that the open second bearing (21) is constituted by two open cylindrical surfaces (23, 24) separated by an empty space (25) of width that is not less than the maximum thickness of the blade (5) in its portion (26) that is secured to the pivot (3).

3. (original) An intervertebral cage according to claim 2, characterized by the fact that the open second bearing (21) is a retention bearing.

4. (original) An intervertebral cage according to claim 3, characterized by the fact that at least one of the two open cylindrical surfaces (23, 24) is defined over an angle greater than 180°.

5. (currently amended) An intervertebral cage according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, characterized by the fact that it includes means (30) for turning said pivot (3) about said second axis (11) in such a manner that said anchor member

(2) is suitable for taking up said first position and said second position.

6. (original) An intervertebral cage according to claim 5, characterized by the fact that the means (30) for turning said pivot (3) about said second axis (11) comprise a socket (31) of polygonal cross-section made in the face (32) of the second rotary shaft (20) that faces the hole (10) when said second rotary shaft (20) is mounted to rotate in the open second bearing (21), said socket (31) being centered substantially on said first axis (4) and being of cross-section smaller than that of said hole (10).

7. (original) An intervertebral cage according to claim 6, characterized by the fact that it includes an orifice (40) having tapping (41), said orifice being formed in the second rotary shaft (20) being centered on the first axis (4) and opening out into the end of said hollow recess (31), the diameter of said tapped orifice (40) being less than the cross-section of said socket (31), and means (42) for indexing the position of an ancillary relative to the block (1) formed in the face (43) of the block into which said hole (10) opens out.

8. (original) An intervertebral cage for treating degeneration of the spine and suitable for being interposed between two consecutive vertebrae, the cage comprising:

- a block (1);
- at least one anchor member (2) comprising a pivot (3) defining a first axis of rotation (4), and at least one blade (5) secured to said pivot (3) and occupying substantially a first plane (6) making a non-zero angle α relative to said first axis (4); and

means for mounting the pivot (3) to turn relative to said block (1), said means comprising a hole (10) made in the block (1) along a second axis (11), a slot (12) made in the block substantially in a second plane (13) making an angle γ substantially equal to the angle α relative to the second axis (11), the slot (12) also being made in such a manner that, together with the hole (10), it has a common portion (14) suitable for containing the pivot (3), and means (15) for associating the pivot (3) to turn relative to the block (1) when the pivot is in position in said common portion (14) and in such a manner that when, in said position, the pivot is turned through a given amplitude relative to the block, the anchor member (2) is suitable for taking up at least a first position and a second position, the first position being that in which the blade (5) is fully contained within the slot (12), and the second position being that in which a portion (16) of the end of the blade emerges from said slot; characterized by the fact that, for the pivot (3) being constituted by a hollow first bearing (17), the means (15) for associating the pivot (3) in rotation with the block (1) comprise a first rotary shaft (18) mounted with rotary indexing means in said hollow first bearing (17), and means (19) for mounting said first rotary shaft (18) to co-operate with said block (1).